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Security Council

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Letter dated 29 March 2006 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 15 March 2006 (S/2006/192) concerning your intention to extend the mandate of your Special Representative for the Great Lakes Region until 30 September 2006 has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the information and intention expressed in your letter.

The members of the Security Council also took note of the recommendation in your report on the preparations for the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (S/2006/46) that "more prioritization should and could be done". In this regard, they encourage your Special Representative to focus on three priorities in fulfilling his mandate:

(a) To assist the countries of the region to convene the second Summit of Heads of State and Government of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region at the earliest opportunity and to include a clear focus on peace and security issues;

(b) To facilitate adoption by the countries of the region of a security, stability and development pact;

(c) To support the core countries in ensuring that the planned, regionally led follow-up mechanism is fully operational by the time of the second Summit and to take the necessary steps to transfer residual United Nations responsibilities to the core countries.

In addition, Council members requested that if the second Summit is not convened in September, that they have a further and early opportunity to review the Special Representative's mandate.

(*Signed*) César **Mayoral**
President of the Security Council

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